REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims

3-4, 6, 8-9, 13-14, 16 and 18-19 and to cancel claim 20.

A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith. However, the World

Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent

Office.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of

the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S.

practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be

entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and

consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this

communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Gregory A. Sebald (Reg.

No. 33,280), at (612) 336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: September 23, 2005

BHB: GAS: mkc

Gregory A. Sebald

Reg. 33,280

7